



Virginia Green Lodging

The Commonwealth Park Suites Hotel Richmond

"The Commonwealth Park Suites Hotel at Capitol Square is located in the heart of downtown Richmond and across from the Virginia State Capitol and Governor's Mansion. The Commonwealth Park Suites is considered the best of Richmond hotels offering luxurious accommodations and being one of the few hotels in Richmond Virginia that's close to many of the most popular Virginia attractions. We are a 59 unit hotel comprised of 49 suites and 10 standard bedrooms.

Whenever possible we order locally grown products. We train our staff and educate guests on the benefits of being 'Green,' not just for Virginia but overall."

Green Statement: "We chose to go Green because it is the right thing to do not only for now but for the future and for the future of our community, our state, and planet."

GREEN ACTIVITIES

☒ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Recycle linens as rags
- Wash in cold water whenever possible

☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, newspaper, office paper
- Have recycling bins located: in the vending areas
- Also recycle office paper, toner cartridges, cardboard

Guest rooms

- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items

Kitchen (or meetings/events)

- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste

Dining room (or meetings/events)

- Washable dishes are used whenever possible
- Use cloth napkins
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Use refillable pens and toner cartridges
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Building and grounds

- Install carpet with sustainable or recycled content and low-VOC adhesives
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping



Water Conservation. The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
 - High efficiency dishwashers
 - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which minimizes lawn areas



Energy Conservation. The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed in HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

Appliances and electronic devices

- Have adopted a policy / practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other device in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used



Green Events Package. The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of “green meetings/conferences” in marketing packages
- Provide audio visual equipment to reduce need for copied handouts
- Provide bulk foods so that individual condiments will not be needed
- Provide glass, silverware and china to reduce need for paper products

For more information on **The Commonwealth Park Suites Hotel**, see www.commonwealthparksuites.com or contact Jody Moore at jody@smi-hotelgroup.com or (804) 434-7300 ext 7103.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia’s campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The program has established “core activities” specific to each sector of tourism; these practices are the minimum requirements for participation in the program, but encourages participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen or www.virginiagreentravel.org.

